

**Deprivation index formula for assessment**

3394. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the National Knowledge Commission has proposed a Deprivation Index formula to assess the backwardness of students and the formula shall be used to quantify deprivation of various kinds to introduce affirmative action and make higher education as inclusive;
- (b) whether the 27-page report of the six-member commission in higher education has recommended a number of measures to Government;
- (c) if so, whether Government have considered these suggestions; and
- (d) if so, by when a final decision for implementing them will be considered?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (d) The recommendations of the National Knowledge Commission (NKC) are in the public domain for wider debate among all stake holders.

**Children falling ill due to Mid-Day Meal**

3395. SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government are aware that nearly 36 students of Government primary school, Kalirama district of Haryana, fell ill after they took sweet rice as Mid-Day Meal and some students started vomiting and complained to nausea while others had loose motions;
- (b) if so, the action taken by Government in this regard and to provide proper cooking and storage facility for food-grains to save them from getting contaminated; and
- (c) the number of incidents reported in other States in the past three years and what Government have done to improve the Mid-Day Meal scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) The Government of Haryana has reported that out of 132 children, 38 children fell ill and were admitted to hospital. Out of these 38 children, 7 students